

A SOUND INVESTMENT | TEACHING TECH | CLINTON HALL COUNTDOWN

FALL 2015

# Wartburg

M A G A Z I N E



**BEHIND**  
*the*  
**SCENES**

*Hardworking staff  
keep college humming*

# TRANSFORMING TOMORROW

## THE McCOY MATCH



*\$2 million goal met!*

**The McCoy Match has been met!** Your generous gifts toward the transformation of Clinton Hall exceeded \$2 million, matching the challenge grant from Michael and Marge McCoy. These donations, collected over the last year, bring the total amount raised for Clinton to \$6 million of the \$8 million needed. **For more exciting news about the project, see page 14.**

## Construction begins on Knief Outdoor Athletics Pavilion

Crews broke ground in August on the Knief Outdoor Athletics Pavilion, a multipurpose facility near Hertel Field. The new building will serve baseball, soccer, cross country, track and field, and lacrosse fans with a concession stand, centrally located restrooms, and an emergency shelter. The pavilion also will include a team meeting room and training area that can accommodate batting cages and soccer nets.

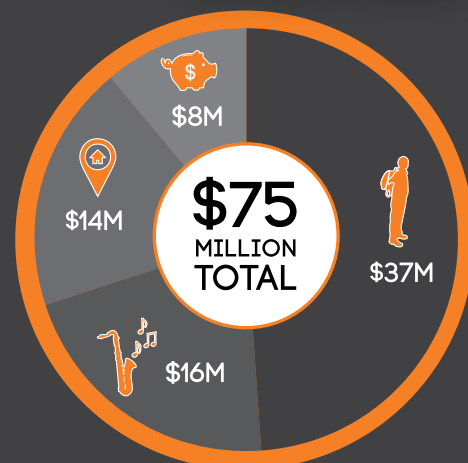
The Knief Outdoor Athletics Pavilion honors **Lotus Knief '52**, whose \$600,000 estate gift helped fund the project. Knief's gift was made in memory of her parents, Elmer and Anita Knief. Elmer, a 1918 graduate, played for the baseball team. Parents of current student-athletes also mounted a fundraising campaign. A dedication ceremony is planned for spring.

*"It's going to be a great step forward to improve the facilities here, not just for soccer but baseball and lacrosse."*

*— Austin Boyke '16  
goalkeeper, men's soccer*

Learn more at [www.wartburg.edu/transform](http://www.wartburg.edu/transform).

## CAMPAIGN GOALS



**Investing in People:** \$27 million of \$37 million raised



\$37 million (in current and deferred gifts)

- Scholarships (\$35 million)
- "Worth It" Marketing Initiative (\$2 million)

**Investing in Places:** \$11 million of \$14 million raised



\$14 million (in current gifts)

- Living and Learning Community – Clinton Hall (\$8 million)
- Instructional Resources and Technology (\$3 million)
- Outdoor Athletic Facilities (\$3 million)

**Investing in Programs:** \$11 million of \$16 million raised



\$16 million (in current and deferred gifts)

- Academic Programs and Faculty Development (\$9 million)
- Experiential Learning, Student Support Services, and Co-Curricular Programs (\$7 million)

**Annual Fund:** \$5 million of \$8 million raised



\$8 million (in current gifts)

**Undesignated Gifts** – \$17 million

**Total – \$71 million towards \$75 million goal**

Wartburg is a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.



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If you have suggestions for stories in the *Wartburg Magazine* or comments about the content, contact Emily Christensen, editor and news director, at [emily.christensen@wartburg.edu](mailto:emily.christensen@wartburg.edu).

# Wartburg

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## ON THE COVER:

### Behind the Scenes

These three maintenance guys are just a few of the men and women who operate behind the scenes to make Wartburg a better place to live and work.

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Address corrections should be sent to the Alumni Office or submitted online at [www.Wartburg.edu/Alumni](http://www.Wartburg.edu/Alumni).

## TRANSCRIPTS:

To obtain an official college transcript, contact the Registrar's Office or complete an online request form at [www.wartburg.edu/academics/registrar/trreq.html](http://www.wartburg.edu/academics/registrar/trreq.html). There is a \$5 fee per transcript.

Requests must include maiden and all married names used, as well as birth date and/or Social Security number. Enclose return address and payment with the request.

# WARTBURG

## — IN THE NEWS —

### Waltmann presented with Wartburg Medal



**Dr. William Waltmann '56**, professor emeritus of mathematics, received the Wartburg Medal for his distinguished service to the college and community during Opening Convocation.

During Waltmann's 40-year Wartburg tenure, he served as a department chair, added computer science and physics to his department's offerings, and grew the faculty from two to 10.

Waltmann and his wife, Carol, have established three endowed scholarships for students majoring in mathematics and computer science. Their three children—Karen Kleckner, Ronald Waltmann, and Diane Gossman—also are Wartburg graduates.

### Wartburg's High School Leadership Institute wins Iowa service award

For the second time in as many years, the college's High School Leadership Institute has received the Engaged Campus Award for Leadership from Iowa Campus Compact.

The award recognizes individuals or groups for their work toward Campus Compact's mission of deepening and strengthening campus, civic, and community engagement.

Launched in 2005, the High School Leadership Institute has served more than 200 high school students from 15 states.

### New chair bestowed at Kleinfeld lecture



**Dr. Daniel Walther**, professor of history, was named the first Gerald R. Kleinfeld Chair in German History during the Kleinfeld lecture in October.

Walther, a Wartburg professor since 1996, has held the Gerald R. Kleinfeld Distinguished Professorship in German History since 2007. The position is being elevated to an endowed chair through an additional \$500,000 commitment by Gerald Kleinfeld as part of the Transforming Tomorrow campaign.

"Wartburg has a rich history, and it has great potential to have a bright future," Walther said. "It is my goal as the endowed chair to continue to harness that heritage, to use it as a tool to establish new relationships, and to create new opportunities for our students to prosper in a global community."

Kleinfeld is the founder and former executive director of the German Studies Association and a professor emeritus of history at Arizona State University. The Kleinfeld chair recognizes Wartburg as the last remaining college in the United States founded by German immigrants that supports active programs and relationships with Germany and encourages those ongoing connections.

### Wartburg receives \$500,000 for scholarships, Transforming Tomorrow campaign

A friendship that began in graduate school resulted in a \$500,000 gift to support student scholarships and grow the endowment as part of the Transforming Tomorrow campaign.

The gift was made possible through the estate of Sanford "Sandy" Moss, who had established a charitable fund with **Harold '58** and **Grace Jahn '61 Kurtz** as trustees. When Moss died in July 2014, the Kurtzes honored his memory and celebrated their friendship by establishing the Sanford "Sandy" Moss Journalism Scholarship and providing financial support for five other scholarship funds.

The new scholarship will be awarded to journalism and communication students, with a preference given to rising juniors and seniors planning careers in news media.

### Wartburg Choir releases new CD



The Wartburg Choir has added another full-length album to its growing collection of recordings.

*Sanctuary*, recorded over the last four years, features 17 tracks, including the recording of *Prayer* accompanied by composer Morten Lauridsen in Wartburg Chapel. Some tracks were recorded during the choir's international tour,

including ones recorded in churches in Colmar, France, and Stuttgart, Germany.

"I couldn't be more excited about the release of the new CD. It provides listeners with an eclectic mix of pieces ranging from Renaissance motets to American spirituals. There is something for everyone on this

## HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND 2015 *in numbers*



**59** Renaissance  
Faire Booths

**1,479**



Celebrated at  
Oktoberfest

**6,300**



Cheering  
Football Fans



**53** Parade  
Entries



**172** Happy Hour  
Attendees





Wartburg College Republicans (from left) Adam Kurt '16, Zach Schulz '16, and Sean Lancaster '16 pose with Donald Trump during his campus visit.

## College Republicans bring presidential candidates to campus

Three contenders for the Republican presidential nomination have visited Wartburg College since last spring.

Donald Trump had yet to announce his candidacy when he visited campus last April, nearly filling Neumann Auditorium. Since then, he's spent time at the top of the polls in the crowded Republican presidential field.

More recently, Rick Santorum and Rand Paul have made stops on campus to talk about the issues in more intimate settings.

Santorum's visit, with a town hall format allowing for numerous questions, drew about 50 people. Paul, who visited the college as part of The Iowa 10,000 College Tour, attracted more than 100 community members and students.

The Wartburg College Republicans, a student-run organization, hosted the visits. The Wartburg Democrats have not registered as an official group on campus this year.

recording," said Dr. Lee Nelson, Patricia R. Zahn Endowed Chair in Choral Conducting and Wartburg Choir conductor.

*Sanctuary* is available on iTunes, Amazon, Rhapsody, and in The Wartburg Store.

# THE CLASS OF 2019 IN NUMBERS



203  
WOMEN



204  
MEN



**MOST COMMON  
GIRL'S NAME**

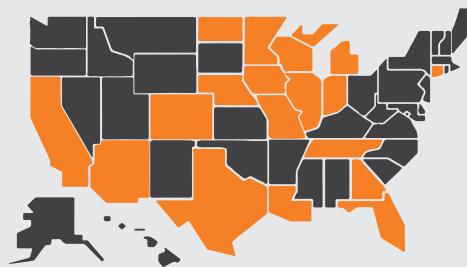
HANNAH

**MOST COMMON  
BOYS' NAMES**

MITCHELL TYLER

## STUDENTS FROM

222  
HIGH SCHOOLS  
18 STATES 21 COUNTRIES



28

INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENTS

55

LEGACY  
STUDENTS

65

FIRST-GENERATION  
STUDENTS

## TOP THREE ADVISING PREFERENCES



1. Business Administration
2. Biology
3. Music Therapy

## Thanks for coming home!



557 Reunion Attendees



120 Golfers



238 Sunday Homecoming Luncheon Attendees

1,788

Registered Attendees



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## *Neumann Auditorium acoustics revamped for venue versatility*

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**BY CLINT RIESE '05 PHOTOS JULIE DREWES '90**

**WITH THE TABLE CLEARED** at the 2013 Meyer family Thanksgiving dinner, talk turned to business. As Denny Meyer explained an exciting product his company was developing, it struck a chord with his identical twin, Don.

The Meyer boys grew up immersed in music. Denny even taught it at the elementary level before being recruited to Wenger Corporation, a leading manufacturer of music and performing arts products.

When Don, Wartburg College's senior gift planner, learned the groundbreaking product promised to liven the sound of dry performance halls, he thought of the perfect test case.

Soon, talks materialized for Wartburg's Neumann Auditorium to be a beta site for Wenger's Transcend™ Active Acoustic System, a first-of-its-kind product that produces customized reverberation. The technology, featuring a processor crunching advanced algorithms, seemed as otherworldly as the promise: Select one setting, and the auditorium could boast the perfect vocal acoustics of a cavernous cathedral. Tap another, and an instrumental number could feature the sound of a world-famous orchestra hall.

"I was quite skeptical," said Dr. Lee Nelson, Wartburg Choir conductor and Patricia R. Zahn Chair in Choral Conducting. "I didn't think it was possible to create a virtual acoustic. My initial reaction to Don was, 'Thanks, but no thanks.'"

But as Wartburg's comprehensive fundraising campaign, Transforming Tomorrow, took shape, a commitment to renovating the facility emerged. Neumann Auditorium was intentionally built with dry acoustics to accommodate spoken-word events like convocations and worship services. However, it is not conducive to performances for many of Wartburg's widely recognized music ensembles.

Don Meyer pitched the potential solution to **Joanne Shipman '69** and Lindley Jones, Waverly residents who had expressed interest in supporting fine arts at Wartburg. They agreed to join several music faculty, the Meyers, and others on a visit to a Minnesota high school whose rehearsal room features a Wenger active acoustic system.

The technology's effects were obvious, and though the space was smaller than Wartburg's 1,200-seat auditorium, the field trip proved a catalyst.

"For me, that's when things changed," Nelson said. "I was really impressed. I got pretty excited about the project after that."

The Joneses, too, were all in.

"We were astounded at how this system not only improves the acoustics in an auditorium, but also enhances the interaction of the

## The science behind the sound

Active acoustics systems have existed for decades but have been limited to small spaces. A high school rehearsal room represented Wenger's largest installation before the Neumann Auditorium project.

Emerging technology now makes large-scale installations possible, and Wartburg has a front-row seat.

"It's the most state-of-the-art system out there," said Denny Meyer, Wenger's acoustics product manager. "Ten years ago, people were not as accepting of active acoustics as a solution, but the quality of the sound has come such a long way."

The Transcend™ system uses nonregenerative simulated acoustics to liven dry venues with customizable reverberation. In Neumann Auditorium, four retractable microphones relay a signal to 80 expertly placed speakers via a processor developed by Harman, a leading audio company. The processor uses a patented algorithm that can optimize sound for thousands of variables, allowing the user to create any acoustical setting.

The science doesn't involve volume, but direction.







# investment

participants in the performance,” Joanne Jones said. “We are very excited to be able to help transform Neumann Auditorium into a great-sounding hall.”

Updates to the 55-year-old auditorium spanned this summer. Prep work for the Transcend installation uncovered more asbestos than expected and the need for comprehensive improvements to the electrical system. The Joneses increased their gift and other donors came forward, allowing the project to continue in its full scale and on schedule.

The Transcend system went live at an open house Oct. 19 after Wenger engineers spent weeks fine-tuning speaker placement, adjusting algorithms, and tweaking presets to the liking of Wartburg’s conductors.

Nelson couldn’t help but test Transcend’s capabilities during the Meistersinger All-State Choir Camp in August. He activated it for a final chord, and the reverberation stunned the hundreds of music campers.

“You could hear a pin drop when the choir cut off and then a collective gasp of excitement from the participants,” he said.

The implications are many. Traditions like Christmas with Wartburg and Homecoming worship will sound better than ever as several presets are employed throughout the event. Combined choral-orchestral performances become feasible. The auditorium could even emerge as an alternative location for choir concerts if the demand for space outgrows Wartburg Chapel.


“The sky’s the limit now in terms of what we can do for programming, and that is very exciting,” Nelson said.

The upgrade represents an ideal fit in the college’s long-range plans, Don Meyer feels.

“We could spend \$20 million and build a new performing arts center, have it acoustically designed, and then those are the acoustics you have,” he said. “With this, it’s almost like getting a new performing arts center with these beautiful acoustics, but it’s flexible. It will serve so well for the many different events we hold in Neumann Auditorium.”

Not to mention for publicity and exposure. As a beta site, Wartburg agreed to regularly host acoustic consultants for whom Wenger will showcase Transcend. Thus, Wenger will maintain the system and keep it on the cutting edge. Already, Wenger has promoted the Neumann Auditorium project in its marketing materials and industry journals.

The system also is making waves in local music circles. It was the buzz at all-state camp, even attracting teachers to experience it after seeing chatter on social media.

“It’s going to give us exposure we’ve never had before, in some ways how The W impacted athletics. Many schools and music organizations will be looking to Wartburg to hold their events,” Nelson said. “I’m hoping that we’ll be a destination for music festivals and concerts so others can experience this new technology. It’s definitely going to be a great asset for the college.” 



Denny and Don Meyer

“It’s hard to look at a microphone and a speaker and not think amplification,” said Dr. Lee Nelson, Wartburg Choir conductor and Patricia R. Zahn Chair in Choral Conducting. “That’s nearly everyone’s first reaction, and rightfully so, but this doesn’t amplify anything. It disburses the sounds more evenly and effectively throughout the hall.”

In addition, leveling the acoustics throughout the auditorium eliminates dead spots unique to its design. One of Nelson’s “lightbulb moments” came during a sound test

when he couldn’t hear a difference when moving between the main hall and the space below the balcony.

“This system is a whole new frontier for the music world,” he said. “Wenger calls it a game changer, and I agree with them. There are many multipurpose auditoriums and sanctuaries that are good for a few specific types of music or spoken word, but with this technology, these spaces can be excellent for all performing ensembles. Truly amazing.”

# MAYER'S QUEST TO COMBAT CANCER

## *Pharmaceutical pioneer developing potential treatment for leukemia*

BY CLINT RIESE '05

**DR. LAWRENCE MAYER HAS SPENT DECADES** mixing exotic combinations of anti-cancer drugs and agents. His scientific method, though, is not very complicated: hard work.

"I always assumed everybody knew more than I did, and no one was going to do better than me because they outworked me," said **Mayer '78**. "If I was going to be successful, it was just hard work, plain and simple."

That strategy helped him graduate from Wartburg at the top of his class and go on to launch a pharmaceutical company. Now it has him on the doorstep of a groundbreaking medical advancement.

The lead product of his company, Celator Pharmaceuticals, is showing promise in its third and final stage of clinical trials. Barring setbacks, CPX-351 would bring the first major breakthrough since the 1970s in the treatment of acute myeloid leukemia, the most common type of acute leukemia in adults.

"My approach has been to try to enhance the selective delivery of cancer agents and, more recently, drug combinations to cancer cells," Mayer said. "We've found a way to take the drugs that are currently used and make them much more effective."

The promising drug—recently trademarked as Vyxeos—doubled overall survival rates of high-risk patients in its Phase II trial. It could be approved next year if Phase III results meet Mayer's expectations.

The development of Vyxeos comes at an exciting time in Mayer's field.

"There are a lot of true breakthroughs occurring," he said. "Particularly in the blood cancer area, there are several types of leukemias and myelomas that 10 years ago were uniformly fatal, and new agents have been identified so that there are now 95 percent five-year survival rates. I think we're starting to see some evidence of real important breakthroughs also in the solid tumor area."



*It was more about hard work than being smart, trust me. And I think that also helped set the stage for me being successful moving forward, because it opened a lot of doors.*

— Lawrence Mayer '78

## CLAIMING HIS CALLING

In March, the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering inducted Mayer into its College of Fellows.

The honor—which recognizes contributions to teaching, research, and innovation—is reserved for the top 2 percent of medical and biological engineers in the country.

Mayer's journey into that select company took him from the Midwest to Canada and the East Coast, and from universities to government agencies and publicly traded companies.

He followed his brother's footsteps from Oconto Falls, Wis., to Wartburg, where he double-majored in chemistry and biology.

"I would get up early and go pheasant hunting, I'd go fishing before class, play poker in the evening, but I just never wasted a minute of time," he said. "I was either studying, playing baseball, hunting, or fishing, and that was it. I didn't just sit around."

The supercharged schedule paid off, as the 1977 Wayne Page Memorial Outstanding Student-Athlete Award recipient graduated summa cum laude.

"I take a lot of pride in that," he said. "It was more about hard work than being smart, trust me. And I think that also helped set the stage for me being successful moving forward, because it opened a lot of doors."

Mayer attended his top choice for medical school, earning a doctorate in biochemistry from the University of Minnesota and making the first of many significant contributions to science.

"He was both an outstanding student—perhaps our best in his

year—and excellent in the laboratory," said Dr. Gary Nelsestuen, Mayer's professor and lab supervisor.

Mayer made a finding regarding the binding of proteins to membranes that proved ahead of its time. A decade later, when a protein structure discovery led many to contradict Mayer's conclusion, Nelsestuen's lab "simply ignored them and continued our research," convinced of Mayer's work. That faith paid off in the early 2000s through the lab's development of proteins with increased function that have been the basis for 47 patents worldwide.

"The bottom line is that Lawrence produced a timeless study of the finest caliber that we could reference for decades and was critical to many inventions and major activities in the pharmaceutical industry," Nelsestuen said. "His contributions to this field were among the strongest from my laboratory and, ultimately, to the pharmaceutical pursuit of enhanced drugs."





## INTERNATIONAL IMPACT

After obtaining his doctorate, Mayer earned a rare honor for an American, receiving a Canadian postdoctoral fellowship to work at the University of British Columbia. While studying drug membrane interactions at the Vancouver lab, Mayer made a discovery that had implications for delivering cancer drugs.

“It was something I wasn’t just going to hand over to somebody, so I started learning more about cancer biology and doing pharmacology experiments,” he said. “The opportunity to do something that might make a meaningful impact in cancer therapy obviously was exciting. It opened that part of my career.”

Mayer held director positions at two drug development companies, then at the British Columbia Cancer Agency, where he and others developed ideas they felt could form the basis of a company. Celator launched in Vancouver in 1999 with Mayer as founder and president.


The company added a facility in Princeton, N.J., and went public in 2013 with Mayer as chief scientific officer. It employs nearly 30 people, a number that shifts with drug development stages.

“You have to be very flexible and very resilient, because it’s never as good as you think it is, and it’s never as bad as you think it is,” Mayer said.

## SACRIFICING FOR SCIENCE

Mayer’s curriculum vitae is thick from 30 years of accomplishments. He has authored more than 250 scientific publications, has more than 35 patents awarded or pending, and has played a lead role with numerous oncology drugs that have achieved market approval, including three for Celator.

Such efforts take time, and Mayer readily acknowledges his is not a typical job. Sacrifices in the name of science are many, and time with family is no exception for the father of three. But considering his field and the potential impact of Vyxeos, a hard day’s work couldn’t be more rewarding.

“An unrelenting commitment to doing the best you can all the time means that sometimes when you don’t really feel like working that hard, you still sit down and be disciplined,” he said. “Not everybody’s cut out for that, but that’s what it takes to do a good job at the job that I have.” 



# teaching tech

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*Grant puts more technology  
in students' hands, classes*

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**BY CLINT RIESE '05   PHOTOS JULIE DREWES '90**

**THE ARCHITECTS OF VOGEL LIBRARY** must have had a clear vision of the future. When the expanded and remodeled library opened in 1999, it featured extra outlets, network cords routed to empty spaces, and raised floors designed for wiring that didn't exist.

That future is now. Thanks to a grant from the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation and other gifts received as part of the Transforming Tomorrow campaign, nearly \$300,000 worth of technology is ensuring the library remains the central point of study as the nature of coursework shifts.



Brundy

"If you look across academic libraries, as we pivot away from a focus on collections and a building full of objects and we pivot towards service, a big part of that is technology," said Curtis Brundy, Vogel Library director. "As the assignments change in the classes, and they're more reliant on media, the library's just a natural place to house some of that technology and support."

The grant came at an ideal time. Brundy was looking to make the library a center for learning technologies. Dr. Stephanie TeKippe, an assistant professor of education who also holds instructional technology responsibilities for the Academic Affairs Office, had







TeKippe

seen students bounced around campus seeking curriculum-related technical support. After touring several college libraries, and with help from James Olson, Wartburg's college-sponsored programs administrator, they structured a grant proposal centered on making technology available to any student, for any class.

"It was all about being instructionally based, trying to get technology as a tool in the hands of the students," TeKippe said.

The funding, secured by Wartburg's Department of Education, is transforming the way students learn. It allowed the library to add a high-end, media-creation computer lab and launch a student-run tech support service. The grant's crown jewels, though, are two cutting-edge library classrooms overhauled for this year.

Their doorways feel like a portal to the future: four state-of-the-art, color-coded workstations frame an instructor station, each featuring a large screen attached to a round table. Students connect cords built into the table to laptops—the grant covered a cart of 25—and use a button on their cord to "throw" their computer's screen onto the station's. The instructor uses a touchpad to control whose screen displays on a giant videoboard on the wall. The touchpad also allows any screen to be thrown onto any of the station monitors. The classrooms also are equipped with portable whiteboards students use at their tables before hanging on the wall to display.

"It makes it more interactive," said **Briana Miller '17**, an elementary education major. "We can talk about our own projects and bring it up on each screen, so everyone can look at it as we're talking about it and collaborate."

Naturally, students have been quick to grasp the technology.

"When you put this technology out, you don't know what level of support you're going to have to provide, but the students are not afraid to experiment," Brundy said. "You still need to support it, but they can figure it out in many cases on their own."

Instructors, too, are adjusting on the fly. Instead of presenting for the duration of a class, the technology is designed for them to, in essence, help with "homework."

"It's a completely different way to teach, so you have to think of it backward," TeKippe said. "The lesson planning is a little bit different

because students have to come to class with a base to share so they can work collaboratively."

To that end, the technology allows professors to record lectures featuring screen content and oral instruction, then share it with students between class sessions. TeKippe and fellow education professor Dr. Kelly Faga are carrying out a formal research study on the effects of this "active learning" instructional method in their classes.


While the first-floor classroom is reserved for the education department, the second floor's classroom is available to the entire campus. Currently, its primary use is for librarians to give information literacy sessions, but any professor can book the room—once or for all term.

On the same floor's common area, five more of the collaborative work tables and whiteboard stands have replaced carousels with individual nooks.

"We're seeing more multimedia assignments, where it's not so much writing a paper," Brundy said. "Professors want students working together on developing a PowerPoint or doing group presentations or making a movie."

Many other new library features cater to such projects. A bank of high-end Macs, PCs, software, and scanners provide horsepower previously found only in program-specific labs. A prep room allows students to record and review presentations. Tech-wise students in the Emerging Leaders in Technology Education program hold paid positions maintaining the new devices and showing students how to utilize them. The ELITE crew also runs the library's equipment check-out program, through which students can borrow laptops, tablet computers, digital cameras, video-recording devices, and an assortment of chargers. This popular new service put an additional 2,300 technology items in the hands of Wartburg students, faculty, and staff in 2014-15.

The early returns are encouraging: The classrooms are a hit, the common-space work tables are bustling, and the check-out equipment is flying off the shelves.

"The students are just in their natural environment," TeKippe said. "It's not so much, 'Oh, this is so cool.' It's, 'Yeah, this is how it should be done.'" 



# THE GOLDEN TOUCH

*Frank leads Colorado State University  
through record-setting years*

BY CLINT RIESE '05

**DR. TONY FRANK '81 RECENTLY ACCOMPLISHED** in one month what many athletic directors would be happy to achieve in a career.

The Colorado State University president last December negotiated the largest contract buyout in the history of college athletics, squeezing \$5 million out of the University of Florida, the national powerhouse who signed away CSU's up-and-coming football coach. The next day, Frank secured approval to build a \$220 million football stadium on campus. He replaced the football coach by the end of the month. Three months later, he hired an athletic director, filling a position that had sat vacant through all of December's drama.

Time for a vacation? More like a promotion. In May, the CSU Board of Governors combined the roles of CSU campus president and CSU system chancellor, entrusting Frank with both.

Increasing responsibility is nothing new for Frank. Since arriving in Fort Collins in 1993 as a pathology professor, he continually has been tabbed for the next job up: department chair, associate dean for research, vice president for research and information technology, provost, senior vice president, and, in 2009, president.

"I joke sometimes that I've been unable to hold a steady job here at CSU," he said. "The truth is that I've been incredibly lucky. I've always been in jobs that I love."

His presidency has spanned a golden era featuring record enrollment, retention, and graduation rates; the world's first Platinum designation in the STARS higher education sustainability rating system; the launch of a \$700 million campus building boom; and early completion of the college's first fundraising campaign, which far surpassed its \$500 million goal.

"Tony is very popular on campus, off campus, and around the state," said Tom Milligan, the university's vice president for external relations. "He is very well respected, and people really like what he's done with our institution."

Even from his main base of opposition—the anti-stadium crowd—any criticism of Frank himself has been qualified. The leader of the organization that formed to oppose the stadium acknowledged to *The Coloradoan* that "Everybody told me this is the best president we've ever had. He's done some great things."

## SECRET TO HIS SUCCESS

Milligan cites Frank's intelligence, drive, and masterful public speaking as ingredients for success but believes his approachability truly sets him apart.

"I don't think you can overestimate this: I think Tony is absolutely a product of growing up on a farm in Illinois. He's got a Midwestern sensibility and a real humility to him, and that's real. People really like him because he is as he seems."

Two of Frank's three children—all daughters—have attended CSU during his presidency. He believes that has contributed to the friendly rapport he enjoys with the student body.

"My whole time as president, I've had a daughter in the college," he said. "A lot of my interactions with students have come from that perspective."

Students take advantage of Frank's willingness to pose for pictures, joke about the long emails he sends them, and have fun with his distinctive beard, which has its own Facebook page.

His appeal extends into business settings. Numerous Board of Governors members cited their trust in Frank as a reason for supporting the football stadium.

"He's very affable, and you want to please him because he cares about the right things," Milligan said. "I think a lot of people really feel like, more than anything else, you don't want to disappoint him, because you like him."





## A THREE-GENERATION CONNECTION

A deep connection to Wartburg brought Frank to Waverly in 1977. His mother, **Elaine Schlesinger Frank '49** attended Wartburg on advice her parents received from the pastor of their small parish in northern Illinois.

"They asked their pastor where they should send their oldest daughter to college," Frank said. "He had been to Wartburg for seminary. That was the only name he gave them, and that was the only place they looked at."

Frank's older brothers attended Illinois State University, and he visited the University of Illinois, but his mother also signed him up to visit Wartburg.

"Support financially made it very competitive, and the opportunity to get that small-school experience and liberal arts education was absolutely spectacular," he said.

The biology major served as a resident assistant and took part in theater. He also volunteered as a financial aid peer counselor under Craig Green, the financial aid director and play director. The two teamed up for variety show performances, including a thrown-together rendition of Abbott and Costello's *Who's on First?*

"We never got it right until we went on stage," Frank recalls. "We were butchering it in the restroom five minutes beforehand, and I remember thinking it was going to be a big debacle."

For all of Frank's people skills, his plans after Wartburg involved animals. He hoped to return to Illinois to farm and practice large-animal veterinary medicine on the side. But after earning veterinarian degrees from the University of Illinois, Frank met his future wife, Dr. Patti Helper, who happened to be a veterinarian. He opted for another career path, graduating from Purdue University with a doctorate in comparative pathobiology.

Site unseen, Frank then accepted a position as assistant professor of toxicology and veterinary medicine at Oregon State University, encouraged in part by the rave reviews of friends who had traveled to the Oregon coast during Dr. Stephen Main's Wartburg May Term marine biology course. Four years later, Frank jumped at the chance to teach for one of the country's best veterinary medicine institutions: Colorado State University.


## A FOUNDATION IN LIBERAL ARTS

On the heels of success at CSU, Frank isn't kicking up his feet. What he calls an exciting and innovative time in education requires navigating the challenges of decreasing state financial support and increasing education-delivery methods.

Frank sees the need for public universities to embrace liberal arts values. With knowledge being delivered in more efficient means than lectures, he said professors must do more in their time with students than extend facts.

"We can now start to say, 'How do you use those facts? How do you think critically? How do you work in teams? How do you articulate an argument?'" he said. "I think there's going to be a real resurgence in liberal arts because those questions are the building blocks of a liberal arts education. I think small, liberal arts institutions like Wartburg have tremendous advantages in dealing with this."

Those building blocks, he said, have been more applicable to his presidency than his advanced degrees.

"When I was at Wartburg, I would've told you that things like public speaking, economics, history, philosophy, and psychology were a total waste of my time, that what I was after was biology and chemistry, and that's what I was going to use," he said. "But the things that I use now are in that basic liberal arts education foundation that Wartburg gave me so effectively." 



Rendering provided by Populous



# environmental EDUCATION



## *Summer adventures take alumna's teaching to a new level*

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN

**GROWING UP IN NORTHWEST IOWA**, Stacie Bromley Stoffregen '93 saw some of the state's first wind farms spring up in the late '80s. The idea of sustainable energy created through wind power fascinated the teenage science nut.

Twenty years later, she and her husband, **Kori '89**, watched as Indiana powered up wind farms that stretched for more than 100 miles. Now, as an eighth-grade science teacher, she transmits her excitement to her students through energizing classroom experiences.

With the long-ago lessons of **Dr. Les Huth '58**, professor emeritus of education, echoing in her ear, last year she applied for and won a \$10,000 Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Fellowship annually awarded to "recognize, re-energize, and support" 100 Indiana educators.

"Dr. Huth taught us the importance of continued education and a wide variety of experiences," she said. "As an educator it is all about learning throughout your life and then being able to bring that into the classroom so your students can share in those experiences."

The fellowship allowed Stoffregen to engage in hands-on learning with a three-week lesson in island sustainability in Puerto Rico and renewable energy workshop in Minnesota.

### ISLAND LIFE

This summer's Puerto Rican adventure included 10 days on an EarthWatch Institute expedition in the El Yunque National Forest, where a team of researchers and citizen scientists counted and observed endangered wildlife, planted native and endangered tree species, and learned new ways to live off the land.

For Stoffregen, this meant hours spent scouring the rain forest in search of coquis—a species of tiny frogs. She also helped plant a sustainable forest at Las Casas de la Selva, an El Yunque auxiliary forest with nearly 300 acres of about 40,000 native trees and exotic species. The effort demonstrates how sustainable forestry can rebuild a forest and provide a living for those who maintain the land.

"We had 14 species entrusted to us to plant in the Las Casas de la Selva area. There were only four adult trees of this one species that we had," Stoffregen said. "It will be fun to go back in a few years and see how those trees are doing."

Stoffregen visited a protected bioluminescent bay where microorganisms light up the water, a network of limestone caves and natural underground waterways at the Camuy River Cave Park, and Arecibo Observatory, home of the world's largest radio telescope.

She learned about greywater—household water from sinks, dishwashers, and tubs—that can be used to water grass and gardens as



well as compost toilets that use little to no water to process human waste.

On every adventure, Stoffregen also soaked up as much information as she could about the territory's wind farms. Among those she was able to see was the farm powering the Bacardi rum distillery.

"Solar farms in Puerto Rico have been built in remote locations because people don't want it in their neighborhoods and in populated areas," she said. "It's interesting to see where they find space for them."


### RENEWABLE MOMENTUM

While Stoffregen wasn't able to tour any Puerto Rican wind farms, she absorbed a powerful education in Minnesota at the Kid Wind RECharge Academy, a training workshop about renewable energy specifically designed for educators.

"They would give us the content knowledge and then give us a building challenge. When we were done with the build, we would test it," she said. Her projects were sent back to Indiana to be used as classroom models.

"I am so excited for my kids to see my successes and failures and to do their own build. I have already developed little lessons that we will incorporate into a yearlong project—a cardboard smart house," she said.

Students also will be tasked with building a "Wonder of the Week" video library, showcasing the work they do in the classroom. Stoffregen preloaded her YouTube channel with her own wonders from Puerto Rico.

"The mission of the grant is to be renewed and find new, creative ways to teach, and that's exactly what I did this summer. I'm very excited to get back into my classroom and share my experiences with my students." 



Search **StacieStoffregen1** on YouTube to view her videos from the trip.



# Bee-ing Green



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*Alumnus finds passion, purpose  
living a sustainable life*

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**BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN PHOTO JULIE DREWES '90**

## **ECOLOGISTS SAY DIVERSITY EQUATES TO STABILITY**

in an ecosystem. **Ken Nuss '74**, an ecology buff himself, recognizes that same principle at work in his life.

Since earning a biology degree from Wartburg and a master's degree in entomology from Oklahoma State University, Nuss has worked in cabinet-making and beekeeping, taught at the University of Northern Iowa, and practiced chiropractic care. It has all been to support his desire to lead a simple and sustainable life.

"We took this piece of ground that had just an alfalfa field and a few trees and turned it into a forest reserve. We try to grow one of every tree that will grow in Iowa on the farm," Nuss said of his five acres just north of Waverly. "All of our plantings are there to protect the house from the wind and provide foliage for the birds, bees, and insects. This is our refuge."

Nuss led construction efforts on the modest home, the north side of which is built almost completely into the ground. Windows line the south side, allowing for natural heat in the winter that is supplemented by a wood-burning stove. During the summer, the passive solar design keeps the windows in the shade.


"Naturally, we garden and grow plants, too. We have watermelons, asparagus, pumpkins, gourds, carrots, parsnips, sweet corn, and a bunch of others," he said. "We freeze and can whatever we don't eat, all the things 1970s kind of people do."

While the cabinet-making and teaching have faded into the background, Nuss, who now works at his son's chiropractic clinic, has yet to lose his passion for beekeeping.

Nuss and his wife, Sherry, came to Iowa with just three hives. They caught wild swarms of bees, which were plentiful in the late '70s and early '80s, and grew their apiary to more than 330 colonies in 1988. That year, the bees produced about 50,000 pounds of honey.

Though it was never lucrative, the venture provided enough income to help keep the homestead running. However, by the late '80s, Nuss knew a sea change in agriculture was imminent. Farmers were moving from diversified crops to a monoculture that wouldn't provide the variety of flowers needed to maximize honey production.

With that reality weighing heavy on his heart, he enrolled in the doctor of education program at the University of Northern Iowa. Before the first semester was complete, he was approached about teaching entomology the following year. He would go on to complete that degree and develop and teach 14 different science classes in 15 years before heading back to school as a student—this time at Palmer College of Chiropractic—at age 50.

"I've never had an interest in having a job forever and making more and more money," he said. "We live comfortably here, and we don't sacrifice anything to live like this. We probably use half the resources of the typical family. That is our goal. That should be the goal. We need to come back to learning to live on less." 





# THE COUNTDOWN TO A NEW CLINTON

BY ALAN SIMMER '07

**LITTLE HAS CHANGED** in **Ray McCaskey's** room in the north wing of Clinton Hall since he graduated in 1965.

The predominantly first-year residence hall was built in 1958. An addition opened in 1966. Today, the rooms are still without air conditioning. All the bathrooms still have urinals—even those on all-female floors. The community spaces are small and outdated.

McCaskey and his wife, **Judy Slade McCaskey '65**, are ready for that to change. In early November, they established the McCaskey Challenge, a \$1 million matching grant that will build on the success of the recently completed McCoy Match and jumpstart the final push for the Clinton Hall renovation project.

"We serve on the campaign committee, and it seemed like getting Clinton Hall done was really an uphill challenge. People like to give to scholarships and other things, but bricks and mortar have never been sexy," Judy said. "We sat down and talked to each other and said, 'You know, someone's got to do a little more or it's not going to happen.' We decided to stretch a little bit and reach deeper to complete this project."

The McCaskeys already have donated \$11.5 million, the college's largest-ever gift commitment, to the \$75 million Transforming Tomorrow campaign. That money will provide scholarships for students from the Chicago area.

Their latest gift kicks off the Clinton Hall Countdown, a push to raise the final \$1 million before a groundbreaking tentatively set for May.

The upgrades and addition, projected to cost at least \$8 million, will include air conditioning for every room, energy-efficient windows, new lounges and study rooms, a small movie theater, a faculty apartment, and accessibility upgrades that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.



For Judy, a Mason City native who taught 40 years in the Chicago area and continues to volunteer in inner-city Chicago public schools, and Ray, the retired CEO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma and a former chair of the Wartburg College Board of Regents, giving defines who they are.

"In our lives, we've been very fortunate, and we have all the things we need. We've always felt one of the best things in life is to be part of something that's bigger than you, something that is important and long-lasting," he said.

"When we looked at Wartburg specifically, and the ability to sustain and provide the educational opportunities and the like, it just sort of fit into wanting to share our good fortune and to be part of something that was really important to the rest of the world."

"It ties back to the students we have there on scholarship," Judy added. "We want them to make going to Wartburg a transformation in their lives."

They deserve a nicer place to live than some of those older rooms, and it's great to see we can be part of making their whole Wartburg experience perhaps a little better."

The McCaskeys hope this is just the first phase of improvements to the living-learning communities at Wartburg.

"We think accomplishing this project will really be important, not just for this residence hall but as the beginning of a continuous improvement process that will upgrade other student facilities across campus," Ray said. "We think Clinton is a great first step, and hopefully there will be more good opportunities as we move ahead." 📍



You can participate in the **Clinton Hall Countdown** by calling **866-219-9115**, emailing [development@wartburg.edu](mailto:development@wartburg.edu), or donating at [www.wartburg.edu/transform](http://www.wartburg.edu/transform).





# BEHIND *the* SCENES

PHOTOS JULIE DREWES '90

Walls don't paint themselves, but they need to be painted. Just ask Patty Franzen. There's enough of a demand for that task at Wartburg that "Patty the Painter" is known in each corner of campus.

The same goes for moving chairs, selling smoothies, planning events, and countless other tasks that complement the educational experience, however indirectly. If it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a miniature city to nurture more than 1,500 students in close proximity.

Here, we peek behind the scenes to get to know just a few of the faces who keep Wartburg College moving.

While the spotlight favors a select few positions, all seven staff members featured play a role in our students' experiences. In this feature, we salute employees who, like Franzen, bring personality and professionalism to roles that too often come to mind only when a need arises.

**MIKE TESTROET**

*25 years*

**KEN SOMMERFELDT**

*18 years*

**STEVE KLUITER**

*3 years*

**STEVE KLUITER, KEN SOMMERFELDT, AND MIKE TESTROET** had been jabbering unfiltered for a few minutes before the question arose.

“Wait, you’re not quoting this, are you? We’re just feeling free to let it fly, right?” Testroet asked.

The Wartburg-Waverly Sports and Wellness Center’s trio of crack problem-solvers hadn’t been assembled for long, but the conversation already spanned plugged toilets, belching students, and bat excrement.

Scholarly? Perhaps not. But when such topics intersect with one’s job duties, a sense of humor is a prerequisite.

These maintenance whizzes may not be recognizable throughout campus, but anyone who’s used The W or Wartburg’s outdoor athletic facilities has benefited from their handiwork. Just about every square inch of the center’s 140,000 square feet is known to the three-man crew.

The work is seldom glamorous—Sommerfeldt recently found himself consoling a bawling woman who flushed her keys down the toilet. Often, the schedule is inconvenient—Kluiter spent last Thanksgiving shoveling snow around Walston-Hoover Stadium.

A typical day? There’s hardly one. But there are typical demands: burnt-out lights, athletic field lines to chalk, leaky pipes.

And the nonstop schedule of events brings typical obstacles: massive functions scheduled a few days apart, teams each needing access to their own space during meets, crowds leaving bleachers a mess.

“Nobody ever thinks of all that,” Sommerfeldt said. “And then after it gets over, it’s 11 at night, and it all has to be cleaned up.”

“And there’s never as many people to help tear down as there are to put it up,” Kluiter added.

Between supporting events and responding to on-demand requests of all sorts, the maintenance men are the brains and brawn that make The W go.

They’re also the heart. They form relationships with other facility regulars, mentor student workers, and take pride in their work.

“One of the things we’ve always tried to do here is to put a little extra into every event,” Testroet said. “When you set everything up, it looks as good or better than someplace else. Because of the quality of teams we have here and the program we have, you try to do things a little bit better.

“In all sincerity, it is a great place to work,” he added. “I mean, we have a lot of fun and enjoy it. We piddle and moan all the time about this and that, but if you break it down for what it really is, how often do you get to go mess around on a sports field and be outside and inside at work?” — *Clint Riese '05*







Steve Kluiter

Mike Testroet

Ken Sommerfeldt

## PATTY FRANZEN

9 years

**ARMED WITH A BUCKET OF PAINT**, a roller, and a brush, Patty Franzen can turn four drab office walls into freshly painted works of art.

Estimated time to completion: 90 minutes or less.

In the last nine years there are few places Franzen, affectionately known as “Patty the Painter,” hasn’t left her mark. The doorframes in the Admissions Office are the only things left on her paint-bucket list.

“They need it, but they are just so busy up there. There is always something going on,” she said.

The same can be said for much of campus, at least during the academic year, which is why Franzen’s schedule is packed during the summer. Her crew—she has about a dozen summer workers—helps her paint the college’s approximately 500 residence hall rooms. While painting each room the same color can be tedious, the work also goes quickly. The small teams can be in and out of a room in 15 minutes or less.

Though special projects are time-consuming, they can be some of Franzen’s favorites. This summer, her team helped the Department of Journalism & Communication complete its studio remodel and added splashes of color to Vogel Library, including a teal focus wall on the second floor and teal or green accent walls in three classrooms.

Franzen can’t take credit for the idea, though. It was Christy Colson, the president’s wife, who requested the bright colors. Franzen happily obliged.

“I love the before and after. That’s why I like painting—seeing the change I have made in the room,” she said.

Though she spends the majority of her work hours with a brush in hand, Franzen also offers her time and talents to community agencies. She recently helped paint a Waverly house for homeless veterans.

“If you can’t help other people, then what is life?” Franzen asked.

She also takes great pride in teaching her student employees a valuable life skill.

“I know when they leave me, they are now able to do this for themselves, whether it’s when they have their own home or they are helping someone else,” she said. “And, if times get tough, they have a skill they can make a little extra money off of, too. That’s not a bad thing to have.”

—Molly Schmitt '17







## JULIE PALADINO

14 years

**WHEN JULIE PALADINO WALKS INTO A LABORATORY,** students usually stop and take note.

Covered head-to-toe in safety gear, the science lab supervisor spends the first weeks of each academic school year giving safety talks in nearly every chemistry and biology course. But that is only a small part of her position.

Despite the title, Paladino spends very little time supervising labs and a whole lot of time ensuring compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration mandates regarding work environments and Environmental Protection Agency rules regarding hazardous chemical waste.

“When faculty and students generate chemical waste, they do not always know what is OK to dispose of in the trash or down the drain and what needs to be pulled aside and picked up by a licensed, hazardous waste vendor,” she said.

Paladino is the first to see the chemicals come in and the last to see them out. She orders and maintains the inventory of all chemicals for the academic departments housed in the Science Center. When hazardous chemical waste is being generated, she collects and stores the waste until the next pickup date.

Supplying labs and research projects involves more than just chemicals. She also has purchased animal specimens, bugs, strands of DNA, enzymes, fruits and vegetables, and even fast food.

“Eric Berns (biology lab coordinator) and I go to Subway, Taco John’s, and McDonald’s for meals, and the students analyze the fat and protein and different things in the food,” she said. “It’s very weird to take the Wartburg College credit card and buy a burger. It’s fun, and you couldn’t do that kind of lab if you didn’t have somebody to go get it.”

For the former stay-at-home mom, those kinds of tasks offer a fun diversion.

“I love errands. It’s a weird quirk about myself. When I started, the faculty would say, ‘You mean, if I realize that lab is starting and the pH tester is out of batteries, you will just go get them?’” she said. “They thought that was so cool.”

Despite bachelor’s degrees in food science and secondary science education, Paladino still finds herself perplexed by some of the more specific order requests.

“I sat in on a course in cell biology with Dr. (Keith) McClung for a whole semester to try to learn better what these things were that I was buying,” she said. “It’s just one of the many things I’ve loved about this job. This is my vocation. I am here to do the best I can to serve the faculty and students, and I love it.” — *Emily Christensen*

## ANNA EPLEY

15 years

**MOST OF ANNA EPLEY'S DAYS BEGIN** with a brisk walk across campus.

With a two-shelf service cart as her companion, the Zesty Orange retail supervisor makes three stops in Saemann Student Center, loading up on everything from diced chicken to coffee filters to baked goods.

Back in The W, Epley and her student crew get to work preparing salads, sandwiches, and wraps. While they work, they also build relationships that Epley counts as one of the perks of the job.

"I love working with these kids. We sing and dance and joke and just have a good time," she said.

Sometimes the conversations are more serious.

"They have taught me a lot about how much we take for granted, especially food-wise. We throw so much away, and they are just in awe of that," she said. "It's made me more conscientious about the issue, and we do our best here to only make what we need. I always tell them we can make more if we run out."

One area of the inventory she never allows to run low, though, is the ingredients for The Zesty's signature smoothies. She shares a favorite—green tea—with coach emeritus Jim Miller.

"He gets one just about every time he comes here," she said.

Miller's isn't the only recurring order Epley knows by heart.

"Customers will come in, and I'll remember what kind of coffee they drink," she said. "Then we can strike up a conversation."

Epley made lots of friends during this summer's Gentlemen of the Road festival. Inclement weather pushed many campers into The W early that Saturday morning. A co-worker got the coffee percolating so all Epley had to do was open the cash register when she got there (a little earlier than usual).

"One guy set up a tip jar on the counter. I told him we couldn't do that, but he insisted," she said. "We got about \$100 over the course of the morning. They were all just so thankful we opened and offered them a safe, dry place to stay and some warm coffee. It felt really good when we were able to take that tip money and donate it to Retrieving Freedom." — *Allix Williamson '17*







## CINDY CARLSON

*16 years*

**FORMER PRESIDENT JACK OHLE** had the good sense to steal her from a Wartburg competitor. President Darrel Colson had the good sense to keep her. For 16 years, Cindy Carlson has been the woman in charge in the President's Office, managing everything from the top administrator's calendar to special institutional events like legislative coffees and the Senior Dinner.

"The president's schedule is very full, so trying to fit all the pieces together can be challenging," Carlson said. "It's a big puzzle trying to find time for his one-on-one meetings, committee meetings, meetings with students, Board of Regents activities, and conference calls as well as his outside obligations."

In addition, Carlson must make certain the president is properly prepared for each encounter with a meeting agenda, notes or a speech, and a list of attendees.

Her secret to keeping it all organized: lots of notes and file folders.

"I have to be very particular about details. The flow of information can be a challenge to get a handle on," she said. "I take notes on everything. How many of something we ordered. When we ordered it. All the little details that can be easily overlooked. Then, the next time we have something similar on the calendar, I can go back to my file."

If reporting to the big man on campus wasn't enough, Carlson also calls the 30 members of the Board of Regents "boss." As board secretary, it falls on her to respond to inquiries about upcoming meetings or campus happenings.

She also spends a good deal of time preparing for Board of Regents meetings, held three times a year. In addition to collaborating with Colson and the board chair to develop the schedule and agenda, Carlson also must manage the logistics of each meeting, update the board website, and "see to any other details that will lead to an effective and productive meeting."

While the daily tasks can get monotonous, Carlson finds pleasure in planning and executing special events.

"I just enjoy when an activity goes off well, when all the details have been covered, people have enjoyed themselves, and the event achieved the desired results from the college's standpoint," she said. "Most everything we do here is a team effort. I may have input into the schedule and how it flows, but I rely heavily on the advancement and event scheduling offices, our maintenance people, and Dining Services staff to pull these things off. They always come through for me, and I appreciate everything they do to make me look good."

— Emily Christensen





# a garden of hope

## *Sensory worship service cultivates connections in Christ*

**BY** EMILY CHRISTENSEN **PHOTOS** BERT VANDERVEEN

**MELISSA GUTHRIE WAS A NEW MOTHER OF TWO** the first time she was made to feel unwelcome in a church.

She and her then-wife had taken in two foster children. The younger, a 2-year-old, had severe developmental disabilities that made it impossible for him to sit quietly through a traditional service.

"We were encouraged to leave the church because Tommy was disruptive," said **Guthrie '03**. "Until you get to know our family, you don't know why Tommy is screaming or why he is walking back and forth during the service."

Between parenting, working, and studying—Guthrie had just begun the Master of Divinity program at Wake Forest University's School of Divinity when the kids came to live with her in 2008—there was little time to find a suitable place to worship, if one even existed.

Instead, she turned her studies toward theology and disability and began seriously considering an idea that had taken root several years earlier.







(From left) Leah Loy, Melissa Guthrie, and Tommy and Stephanie Guthrie-Johnson enjoy a moment after the service.



## planting the seed

Guthrie first learned about Teach for America—which places teachers in high-needs schools—while studying at Wartburg West. She found a permanent placement with the organization following her graduation.

“Teach for America introduced me to groups of people who find themselves on the margins, specifically the students who didn’t have the same resources I did growing up,” she said. “I was teaching a lot of at-risk youth who generally felt like they weren’t wanted, and I wanted nothing more than to start something that would salvage the gifts of these individuals who were overlooked to allow beautiful things to grow.”

From those experiences and her deep desire to join a faith community that would accept families like hers, Salvage Garden was born. Guthrie launched the nonprofit in Greensboro, N.C., in 2012 with a monthly sensory-worship service, The Banquet.

The fast-paced, 45-minute service follows a traditional liturgy, but with a twist. Each service includes a meet-and-greet, a drama for children, a brief message, and time for reflection. Prayer stations engage all five senses and offer interactive, tangible ways for all to connect with the message. Guthrie worked with speech and occupational therapists to develop the activities.

“We use manipulatives, instruments, touch, and movement to worship and build community,” Guthrie said. “It’s nothing profound, just simple ways we can embody the stories and the things we want to teach.

“Each element of the service lasts about three minutes. If we are singing, and you are nonverbal, you can participate by hearing the music,” she continued. “But you also know that in a few minutes we will be on to the next piece that might be able to engage you more.”

Even the blessing is done a little differently, with a cross drawn on the hand using an edible substance, allowing those who are blind or deaf to connect with the worship community. The final piece is one of Guthrie’s favorites. Every member of the congregation is given an instrument and asked to share in a “joyful noise.”

“It is most definitely a noise. It looks like organized chaos, and it is beautiful,” she said.

*I wanted nothing more than to start something that would salvage the gifts of these individuals who were overlooked to allow beautiful things to grow.*

— Melissa Guthrie ‘03

## widening the embrace

The Banquet—now offered twice monthly—has grown into a gathering place for anyone who wishes to worship in a slightly offbeat way. The “ecumenical but not quite interfaith” service attracts families looking for an alternative way to worship and others who have felt excluded from a traditional church.

That Guthrie has managed to grow Salvage Garden and bring together an eclectic mix does not come as a surprise to the Rev. Ramona Bouzard, the Herbert and Cora Moehlmann Chaplaincy Endowed Chair and dean of the chapel at Wartburg.

“She just has a spirit about her that nourishes and quietly leads and encourages people wherever she is,” Bouzard said. “She is such a great witness to the faith in terms of that radical hospitality and not in an esoteric or intellectual way, but in that concrete part of daily living.”

Today, Salvage Garden also includes SibStars—a support group for siblings of special needs children—and an outreach and education component to encourage and facilitate conversations about ways traditional churches can widen their embrace.

“Churches don’t feel like it is an immediate need to have the conversation or to re-imagine ways they can worship together. But they won’t be pressed with that need unless they begin to open their doors

intentionally,” Guthrie said.

Though First Christian Church, where Guthrie works part time, has accepted her family—which includes Tommy (now 10), 14-year-old Stephanie, and fiancée Leah Loy—it is still difficult for them to attend a traditional Sunday morning service. The Salvage Garden leadership team, with Guthrie at the helm, is committed to the continued fight for acceptance.

“I really like dreaming, and I get caught up in that,” she said. “I want Salvage Garden to move beyond the reputation of worship for people with disabilities, because we all have so much more in common than we realize. There will always be a need for education and training for embracing one another’s differences, whether it is in churches, the workplace, or on school campuses.”

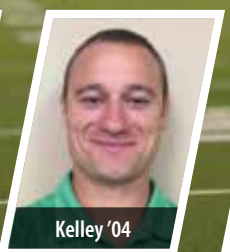
# HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Dohlman '04



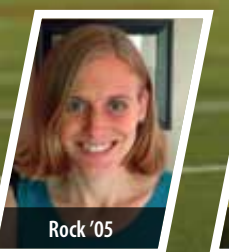
Hargrafen '99



Kelley '04



King '04



Rock '05



Ropp '03



Weiglein '00

## Dia Dohlman '04

The four-year member of the volleyball and track and field teams was a four-time All-American, a two-time national champion (2001, 2004), and still holds the school record (158' 11") in the javelin throw. On the volleyball court, she was a second-team All-American in 2003 as well as a three-time All-Region and four-time All-Conference honoree. Dohlman ranks third in career kills (1806) and digs (1894) and is in the top 10 in six other career categories. She was the Iowa Conference's nominee for the prestigious NCAA Woman of the Year award and an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship recipient. In 2004, she was a javelin qualifier in the Olympic Trials. Dohlman lives in Denver, Colo., where she is an ENT sales representative at Stryker.

## Mark Hargrafen '99

Hargrafen was a four-year member of the football team where he was named a first-team All-Conference selection on both the defensive and offensive lines. The 1998 *Football Gazette* All-American (offensive line) selection earned a master's degree in criminal justice and was appointed by Gov. Tom Vilsack to speak in Washington, D.C., as an advocate for disabled children. Hargrafen; his wife, **Kate Gammell '00**; and their children, Barron and Rocco, live in Grimes where he is nursing manager of in-patient services and continuing care unit service manager at ChildServe.

## Cody Kelley '04

Kelley, a four-year member of the football team, two-time All-American, and three-time All-Conference selection, still holds the school record for career interceptions (22), interception returns for touchdowns (4), and pass break-ups (35). Kelley ranks in the top 10 of single season leaders in 10 categories. His 246 total yards against Linfield in 2003 still stands as the single-game school record in the NCAA playoffs. The salesman for Stryker lives in Solon with his wife, Jessica, and their children, Maddox, Gavin, and Aubrey.

## Vincent (Vince) King '04

King was a four-year member of the football team, two-time All-American, and three-time All-Conference selection. He still holds school records for tackles for loss in a career (90), yards from tackles for loss (326), quarterback sacks (31), and yards from sacks (180), and is in the top 10 in three other career categories. The real estate broker owns Iowa Land and Home Specialists LLC. He lives in Burlington with his wife, Taryn, and their children, Quincy and Kynlee.

## Melissa (Missy) Buttry Rock '05

Rock, a four-year member of the cross country and track and field teams, is the program's most decorated runner. She was a three-time national champion in cross country (the first woman to win three national titles in cross country in any of the NCAA divisions), five-time indoor national champion, and five-time outdoor national champion. Rock earned 18 All-American honors, 30 All-Conference accolades, and was a 29-time Iowa Conference individual champion in cross country and track combined. She still holds the cross country school record for best time and owns school records for three indoor and four outdoor track events. She finished eighth in the 5000m run at the 2004 Olympic Trials and ran on the World Cross Country Team in 2004 and 2005. Rock lives in Prior Lake, Minn., with her husband, Andrew, and their children, Athulya, Tina, Isaiah, and Josiah.

## Heath Ropp '03

Ropp, a four-year member of the wrestling team, was the 2003 NCAA champion at 125 pounds. He was part of the 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003 Iowa Conference Championship and 2003 NCAA national championship teams as well as a two-time All-American and the 2003 Iowa Conference champion. The police officer lives with his wife, Elayna, and their children, Will and Clair, in Ames.

## Zachary (Zac) Weiglein '00

Weiglein was a four-year member of the wrestling team and the 1999 and 2000 NCAA champion at 125 pounds. He has 99 career wins, was a three-time All-American, and three-time Iowa Conference champion (1998 at 118 pounds and 1999 and 2000 at 125 pounds). His wins helped his team earn Iowa Conference championships in 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 and the NCAA national championship in 1999. Weiglein was inducted into the National Wrestling Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2008. The John Deere mold and melt operations manager and his wife, Jacki, live in Cedar Falls.



# ALUMNI CITATIONS

*The Wartburg College Alumni Association presented Alumni Citations to three graduates during the annual Homecoming Luncheon Sunday, Oct. 4. The awards recognize vocational and professional achievement, contributions to the church and community, and support of the college.*



**Dr. Susan Infelt Work '71**  
**Lincolnshire, Ill.**

As CEO of Holy Family Ministries, Work has made it her mission to develop a successful and sustainable model of urban education within a faith-based culture.

Using her training as an educator and therapist—she earned an undergraduate degree in education, a master's in counseling, and doctorate in psychology—she has built the nonprofit into a \$3 million organization serving more than 500 children in Chicago's most economically challenged neighborhoods.

With Work's guidance, Holy Family Ministries has grown to include a faith-based pre-K-8 school, an out-of-school enrichment program, and a leadership development program for teens and young adults. When the school outgrew its rental facility, Work rallied support for a \$9.7 million capital campaign to fund the Holy Family Ministries Center. In 2014, HFM opened Lucille, a 10,000-square-foot retail store named in honor of Work's mother.

Her efforts and the achievements of her staff and students were recognized in 2003 when the school was named a charter member of Schools That Can, a national organization for high-performing urban schools.

Work and her husband, Mitchell, have two daughters, Emily and Jessica.



**Dr. Darrell Schlange '61**  
**Palos Heights, Ill.**

Considered a legend in Illinois' optometry profession, Schlange has mentored and supported several generations of optometrists at the Illinois College of Optometry, where he has taught for more than 50 years.

In addition to his teaching, he maintains a private practice and serves as an attending optometrist in the Pediatrics and Binocular Vision Service at the Illinois Eye Institute. His commitment to his profession and passion for helping others caught the attention of several national leaders—including President Richard Nixon, who asked him to serve on a committee to help improve the overall health and vision of children.

In 1968, Schlange co-founded Beacon Therapeutic Diagnostic and Treatment Center, a nonprofit serving at-risk families in the Chicago area. Though he is no longer a board member, his service continues as a valued adviser.

As an Orange Connection professional mentor, Schlange has helped Wartburg students explore their career aspirations and discern their callings as they relate to optometry.

Schlange and his wife, Ruth Staehling Schlange '63, have three children, Jonathan, Anne, and Steven.



**Dr. Jerry Swanson '73**  
**Rochester, Minn.**

For more than three decades, Swanson has built a distinguished career in neurology at Mayo Clinic as well as a reputation as one of the nation's leading doctors in headache medicine.

In addition to his clinic duties, Swanson has devoted much of his career to medical education at Mayo Medical School, where he is a professor of neurology and director of program evaluation, leading efforts to assess the medical school's outcomes. Swanson also has served as the neurology residency program director, education vice chair of the Department of Neurology, and headache medicine fellowship director.

He has published dozens of peer-reviewed articles and numerous editorials as well as edited two books. Swanson also shares his passion and knowledge of headache medicine with the world as the neurology editor for MayoClinic.com and headache editor for *UpToDate*, an electronic information resource for health care providers. He is an associate editor of the journal *Headache*. He serves on numerous boards and committees related to neurology and education.

Swanson and his wife, Kristine Haugen Swanson '72, have two children, Rachel and Elizabeth.

# Knights

in the News

Anyone recognize these superfans? Head to the college's Facebook page on Wednesday, Nov. 25, and tell us who these guys are and who they are cheering on to a hopeful victory.

Don't forget to find us on Twitter and Instagram to connect with other alums, get the latest info, and discuss the most recent campus events.



## 1952

**HERB HILDEBRANDT**, Ann Arbor, Mich., had his research paper, *Monitoring the Future: Research on the New Generation of Chinese Workers*, presented by co-author Dr. Jinyun Liu at the International Labour Process Conference, Athens, Greece.

**IRENE RADTKE MCKENNEY**, Rochester, Minn., retired in 2002 as business manager for Northwest Iowa Radiology, Storm Lake.

## 1956

Dr. **ROBERT VOGEL**, Denver, Colo., is the interim president of Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kan.

## 1965

Dr. **HARRY ROLLINGS**, Grafton, Wis., retired from teaching and consulting at the Milwaukee School of Engineering and Marquette University.

## 1966

Jerry and **SUSAN KOSCHE VALLEM**, Waverly, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 7.

## 1975

**LOWELL KUECKER**, Goodyear, Ariz., retired after teaching middle and high school English for 40 years. He taught and coached high school wrestling, middle school football, and middle school track in Algona and Denver for 35 years; he spent the last five years in Arizona. Kuecker was a three-time teacher of the year and is a member of Wartburg's Athletic Hall of Fame.

## 1979

**GAYLE LUNDAK**, Adel, retired as a junior high band teacher from the Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District, Dallas Center.

## 1981

**DAVID UNMACHT**, Eagan, Minn., is the executive director of the League of Minnesota Cities, St. Paul.

## 1986

**JOHN KIRCHHOFF**, Sterling, Ill., retired after 30 years in Lutheran education, including 15 as principal. He is now a financial associate with Thrivent Financial.

**STACEY SNYDER**, Tripoli, and Kenny Leuenberger were married Oct. 17. Stacey is an expanded learning program teacher at Orange Elementary, Waterloo.

**PAUL WENGER**, Elkader, is principal at Jordan Creek Elementary in West Des Moines.

## 1989

Dr. **DAVID COFFMAN**, Fort Kent, Maine, was elected surgeon director for the National Board of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists. He also completed the Physician Executive Leadership Fellowship through Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management. Coffman is chief of surgery at Northern Maine Medical Center.

## 1991

Dr. **AMY LEONHART LOCKHART**, Denver, earned a doctorate in education in May from the University of Northern Iowa and is teaching in the UNI College of Education.

## 1994

**BRIAN STINAR**, Denver, Colo., won the Bobby G Award for Outstanding Achievement in Musical Direction for his work on *Hairspray* at the Denver School of the Arts.

## 1995

Todd and **LAURIE CRAVEN CHELF**, Burlington, announce the birth of Elisabeth Ann, May 26. She joins AnaEliza, 21, Jonathan and Benjamin, 9, and Lucas, 6.

**DOUG ROUSH**, Dubuque, is a senior product manager with A.Y. McDonald.

## 1996

**ERIC HANSON**, West Des Moines, was honored by the Radio Television Digital News Association with a national Edward R. Murrow Award recognizing outstanding achievements in electronic journalism for his *This Is Iowa* segment. Hanson is a news reporter and morning anchor at KCCI-TV Channel 8, Des Moines.

**KIMBERLY OSTREM ROUSH**, Dubuque, is a graduate marketing specialist at Loras College.

**AMANDA VYVERBERG SANDERMAN**, Waverly, is a consultant for science with Area Education Agency 267, Cedar Falls.

## 1997

**JENNIFER LIVINGSTON**, La Crosse, Wis., was honored by the Radio Television Digital News Association with a national Edward R. Murrow Award recognizing outstanding achievements in electronic journalism for her documentary, *Tears to Water*. Livingston is a news anchor and reporter at WKBT-TV.

## 1998

**RON HARMON**, Waterloo, received a 2015 Gold Star Teacher Award from the R.J. McElroy Trust and KWWL-TV. He is a social studies teacher at George Washington Carver Academy.

The Rev. **NATHAN PIPHO**, Newton, Mass., joined the Mid-Career Master in Public Administration Class of 2016

at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, Cambridge.

## 1999

**LUCY COLLINS EVANS**, Waterloo, is principal of the Dr. Walter Cunningham School for Excellence.

**RENAE ROST HARTL**, Decorah, is the athletic director at Luther College.

## 2000

**STACY OLMSTEAD** and Steve Heston, Britt, were married April 25.

**KRISTIN WENDLAND**, Wilton, Wis., is a pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wilton, and a Ph.D. candidate in the Old Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J.

## 2001

Don and **AMY DREES JOHNSON**, Marion, announce the birth of Dalton Charles, July 30, 2014. He joins Emrie, 7, Carie, 5, and Torie, 3.

**SARA MCLURE** and Paul Roberts, Avon, Colo., were married July 17. She is director of online media at Slife Smith & Frampton Real Estate.

**TARA PRICE WINTER** and **CHRIS WINTER '04**, Waverly, announce the birth of Maddox John, March 12. He joins Emmry, 5.

## 2002

The Rev. Nathan and **LISA BONORDEN ANENSON**, Altoona, announce the birth of Levi Allen, June 24. He joins Luke, 2.

**ANDY** and Shay **SCHROETTER**, New Richmond, Wis., announce the birth of Erik Hugo, Feb. 6. Schroetter is a high school music teacher with the School District of New Richmond.



# ALUMNA AUTHOR SHARES *family's uplifting journey*

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN

## KELSEY PADDERUD BAKER'S LIFE CHANGED

**FOREVER** the day she learned her newborn son, Brody, tested positive for an inherited enzyme deficiency.

After recovering from the shock, **Baker '05** tracked down resources to educate herself and her husband, **Nick Baker '05**, about Brody's condition, biotinidase deficiency. The enzyme is essential for normal metabolism. Early treatment with biotin supplementation results in normal growth and development.

Two years later she went on the hunt again, this time seeking help explaining to her second son, Eli, why his brother spent so much time at the doctor, took a special medicine, and sometimes received a little extra attention.

"When one child has a disability or deficiency and the other sibling does not, it can create a unique family dynamic. This can be troublesome for children," Baker said.

Inspired by her own love of literacy, she wrote a book addressing these complicated family issues from a child's perspective. The book, *Our Special Family*, was unveiled in May during an on-campus event that also featured the book's illustrator,

**Emma Thiede '16**, and **Dr. Peggy Pruisner '75**, a professor of education who helped Baker with editing.

"The feedback I've gotten so far has all been super positive. I had so many people calling and asking for a copy of the book to donate to their library, which is a great way to get the word out," Baker said. "A Wartburg graduate whose child had been diagnosed with phenylketonuria even contacted me about the book."

*Our Special Family* also was distributed through the Iowa Newborn Screening Program, which is administered through the Iowa Department of Public Health. Baby's First Test, a national clearinghouse for newborn screenings, promoted the book as part of the national Newborn Screening Month in September.



Biotinidase deficiency is one of more than 50 conditions that can be detected through newborn screening using only a few drops of blood collected within the first days of life. The Bakers' newest arrival, Brooke, who was born shortly after the book's release, also has the deficiency.

"This book is important because it highlights how children are born with their own uniqueness," Baker said. "These differences are viewed as blessings to be celebrated. Children learn valuable lessons from each family member because of both their similarities and differences."



*Our Special Family* can be found in several Northeast Iowa public and school libraries as well as through local Area Education Agency lending libraries. Copies also can be purchased on **Amazon** and at **barnesandnoble.com**.

## 2003

**CRYSTAL HEINS BUZZA**, Waterloo, is the executive director of professional technical education for the Waterloo Community Schools.

**ANGELA HAUGEN** and Nick Reilly, Fort Collins, Colo., were married June 7, 2014. She is a student at the Southwest Institute of Healing Arts.

**AUDRA RONSIEK OLSON** and **TRAVIS OLSON '06**, Hawarden, announce the birth of Steven Jeffrey (S.J.), July 23. He joins Kyler, 3.

## 2004

Charles and **KARA O'BRIEN CRAIN**, St. Paul, Minn., announce the birth of Evelyn Kay, Aug. 10. She joins Thomas, 1.

**CHRISTOPHER LEE**, Rockford, Ill., is a pastoral intern at Zion Lutheran Church.

**JOHN MOSBACH**, Tucson, Ariz., is the associate athletic director at the University of Arizona.

**BROOKE TRENT**, Waterloo, opened Trent Law Firm PLLC in July. She is an instructor at legal seminars and law certification programs as well as an adjunct instructor at Hawkeye Community College. She is an elected member of the District 1B Judicial Nominating Commission and state Real Estate Title Standards Committee.

## 2005

Robert and Dr. **CRYSTAL SPINDLER BAKER**, Glenwood Springs, Colo., announce the birth of Azenath Mae, March 13.

**AUDREY GIESE** and Jason Stamps, Waukegan, were married April 24.

Drs. Grant and **RANAE GRAFFT NORLAND**, Chanhassen, Minn., announce the birth of Brady Gerald, Jan. 21.

## 2006

**DAVID HILL** and Mary McZorn, Alexandria, Va., were married July 19.

**JASON STEEGE**, Waverly, is the assistant men's basketball and head men's golf coach at Wartburg College.

## 2007

**KORY** and **LACI FOLKERTS HUMMEL**, Waverly, announce the birth of Olive Anna, July 12.

**ALAN SIMMER**, Cedar Falls, is the campaign communications associate at Wartburg College.

**ASBJORN** and **LINDSAY BOEVERS SKEIE**, Denver, announce the birth of Lily Katherine Mae, June 5. She joins Evelyn, 6, and Charlotte, 4.

## 2008

**T.J. MILLER** is the associate head wrestling coach at Loras College, Dubuque.

**BRIAN SCHMITT** and Dana Shappell, New Hampton, were married June 20.

## 2009

**DeETTA BOHLING**, Liberty, Mo., is the communications director for the American Heart Association, Kansas City.

**AUDREY HESSE** and Tom McGarry, Perry Hall, Md., were married Aug. 8.

**CLARISSA MATHEWS**, Waterloo, received a 2015 Gold Star Teacher Award from the R.J. McElroy Trust and KWWL-TV. She is a fourth-grade teacher at Blessed Sacrament School.

**ABBY MOENK** and Michael Messerich, DeWitt, were married July 4.

**JORDAN SADECKI**, Waterloo, received a 2015 Gold Star Teacher Award from the R.J. McElroy Trust and KWWL-TV. She is a band teacher at Columbus Catholic High School.

**KATIE STEVENSON** and Robert Devereaux, Grimes, were married July 18.

**ALICIA ZIMBECK** and Chris Groen, Rochester, Minn., were married Oct. 4, 2014. She earned a master's degree in microbiology from the University of Iowa in May 2014 and graduated from the medical laboratory science program at St. Luke's Hospital in May 2015. She is a medical laboratory scientist in the neuroimmunology lab at Mayo Clinic.

## 2010

Dr. **DREW** and **ARIANN MORSCH '11 CORPSTEIN**, Des Moines, opened Embrace Life Chiropractic, Ankeny.

**ROMEO DJOUMESSI**, Waverly, is the assistant director of group fitness and personal training at the Wartburg-Waverly Sports & Wellness Center.

**BLAKE HAUGEN** and Rebekah Radcliff, Knoxville, Tenn., were married Aug. 30, 2014.

**RACHEL KUDOB** and Baron Davis, Toledo, were married July 18.

**HANNE WUERTZ** and **ADAM WEBER '11**, Lincoln, Neb., were married June 20.

## 2011

**SAM BOENDER**, Austin, Texas, earned a master's degree in sport management in May from Western Illinois University, Macomb, Ill. He is a sports information assistant at St. Edward's University.

**KRISTIN VALE CUDZEWICZ**, Hartland, Wis., is the band director at Roosevelt Elementary School, Longfellow Middle School, and East High School in the Wauwatosa School District.

**SHELLEY HARTMAN**, Nebraska City, Neb., earned a master's degree in student affairs in May. She is a student activities coordinator at Peru State College, Peru.

Dr. **ANDREW RITTER**, Hastings, Minn., earned a Doctor of Optometry degree, cum laude, from the Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago, in May. He is completing a residency at ICO.

**KYLE SOMMERS** and Kylene Brittain, North Liberty, were married Aug. 29.

## 2012

**TREVOR FINCHAMP** and **DEANNA FLOOD**, Pasadena, Calif., were married Sept. 5.

**DREW FLESCH** and **REBECCA MARION '13**, Bettendorf, were married May 24. She earned a Master of Arts degree in education from the University of Northern Iowa and is a career counselor at Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill.

**CHELSEA FRYE**, San Antonio, is the assistant women's soccer coach at Trinity University.

**ALISON NICOLL**, Fort Worth, Texas, is the assistant minister for high school at University Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

**RACHEL PINS**, Coralville, is an occupational therapist at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City.

**MEREDITH REINHARDT**, Cedar Falls, is an admissions counselor at Wartburg College.

**JORDAN SATHOFF** and Rachael Remick, Hillsboro, were married Aug. 29.

**CHELSEA WIEGMANN** and **JIMMY CLARK '14**, Altoona, were married July 11, 2014. She is a fifth-grade teacher in Des Moines Public Schools. He is a fourth- and fifth-grade teacher in Southeast Polk Schools.

## 2013

**J.R. ANDERSON** and Christine Monson, Olathe, Kan., were married Aug. 1.

**JESICA BUTLER**, Hawarden, is a family advocate for Early Head Start at Mid-Sioux Opportunity Inc., Orange City.

**JEREMY IDLER** and **KATIE TRESSEL '15**, Guttenberg, were married July 18.

**LARRY JOHNSON** and Monique Davisson, Cedar Rapids, were married Jan. 10 and welcomed their first child, Gabriel, June 28. Larry is a social work graduate student.

**TOMMY MIROCHA** and **DANA MOE '14**, Nekoosa, Wis., were married July 18.

**JOE MOEN**, Memphis, Tenn., is a statistical analyst at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He earned a master's degree in biostatistics from the University of Iowa in May.

**MEGHAN TENDALL**, Cincinnati, is a brand marketing and communications specialist with Mane Inc.

**JESS WALLACE** and **GAVIN ALTHAUS '14**, Marshalltown, were married July 11.

## 2014

**CLAY EMMRICH**, Davenport, is an assistant football coach at Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill.

**DEMETRIS FAMBRO**, Rockford, Ill., is an advertisement assistant with Shaun Edits, Chicago.

**KAYLA FRICKE** and Jeffrey Lavrenz, Marion, were married July 18.

**AMY KASCHKE**, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., is a music therapy intern with Laura Baker Services, Northfield.

## 2015

**OLIVIA BARNES**, Ankeny, is a web content analyst at John Deere Financial, Johnston.

**COURTNEY BEBENSE**, West Des Moines, is a loan servicing specialist at Wells Fargo.

**KEEGAN BIRKICHT**, Waverly, is the program director at Retrieving Freedom.

**MORGAN BLOM**, Reasnor, is a lifestyle coordinator at Hearthstone, Pella.

**DAKOTA BOESCH**, Metairie, La., is a high school wrestling coach at Archbishop Rummel High School.

**CHAZ BOOTS**, Cedar Rapids, is an assistant project manager at Modern Piping Inc.

**KARLY BOWN**, Des Moines, is a copywriter at Performance Marketing.

**ALI BROWN**, Huxley, is an event coordinator at Capture Marketing, Des Moines.

**MARY BROWN** is an auditor with the Iowa Division of Banking, West Des Moines.

**JACKLYN BUDDING** is an audit associate at Eide Bailly, Dubuque.

**BRINDA BURKHARDT** is a second-grade teacher at the American International School of Kuwait, Kuwait City, Kuwait.

**HEATHER COLE** is enrolled in the occupational therapy assistant program at Hawkeye Community College.

**MICHAEL CRISSINGER** is a digital marketing specialist at US Water Filters, Bloomington, Minn.

**ASHLEY DAVIS**, Davenport, is a reporter for KWQC-TV6.

**LAURA DePENNING**, Coon Rapids, teaches Title I math and preschool in the Coon Rapids-Bayard Community School District.

**KELSIE DURSCHER**, Waverly, is the assistant director for recruitment services at Wartburg College.

**TARYN EGGERS** is enrolled in the physician assistant program at St. Ambrose University, Des Moines.

**ALLISON EMRICH**, Vinton, is an occupational and physical therapy aide at Physicians' Clinic of Iowa, Cedar Rapids.

**BEN ENGELKEN** is a supply chain manager at J&P Cycles, Anamosa.

**KATELYN EWING**, Clarinda, is a fifth-through 12th-grade vocal music teacher in the Clarinda Community School District.



Photo provided by David's Gallery Photography

Ryan Harms '13 and Brittany Louk '13 were married June 27.





Gavin Althaus '14 and Jess Wallace '13 were married July 11.

**STEPHANIE FADNESS** is a third-grade teacher at Hawthorne Elementary School, Tulsa, Okla.

**COLT FELTES** is an accounting and finance rotate at Rockwell Collins, Cedar Rapids.

**ABIGAIL FOERTSCH**, Oskaloosa, is a housing advocate with Crisis Intervention Services.

**NATHAN FORD** is the digital sports editor for The Gazette and KCRG-TV9, Cedar Rapids.

**SARAH FRISCH** is a kindergarten through sixth-grade special education teacher in the Dunkerton Community School District.

**BRETT GREGORY** is a seventh- through 12th-grade vocal music teacher in the Sheldon Community School District.

**MATTHEW GRUEMMER** is a radio broadcaster and group sales executive for the Waterloo Bucks.

**ADAM HAGENSICK** is the owner of Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning of Waverly.

**ASHLEY HAINES** is a graduate student in ethnomusicology at University College Cork, Cork, Ireland.

**KYLE HARMS**, Sheldon, is a seventh-through 12th-grade vocal music teacher in the South O'Brien Community School District, Paullina.

**SCOTT HEMPEN** is a tax associate with McGladrey, Cedar Rapids.

**BRANDY HERRINGTON**, Clinton, is a VISTA member with AmeriCorps, Davenport.

**ELIZABETH HEYING** is a communications assistant with the Aga Khan Foundation, Washington, D.C.

**ERIC HILPERT**, Sheboygan, Wis., is an assistant tennis professional at Sports Core Health & Racquet Club.

**HANNAH SHIVERS HOEFER** is a fifth- through 12th-grade band director in the Colo-Nesco Community School District.

**AMANDA HOEG** is an intern at Henry Doorly Zoo, Omaha, Neb.

**TAYLOR HOTEK** is a physical education teacher in the Beckman Catholic and Dyersville schools.

**KATE HUFFMAN** is a graduate student in arts administration and cultural policy at Goldsmiths University of London.

**KELSEY HURLBERT**, Walford, is an elementary special education teacher in the Iowa Valley Community School District, Marengo.

**TAYLOR JACOBSMEIER** is a sales executive with Cottingham & Butler, Dubuque.

**TATE JENSEN** is a nuclear propulsion officer with the United States Navy, Washington, D.C.

**SARAH KIELLY**, Waverly, is a logistics coordinator with Green Iowa AmeriCorps, Des Moines.

**ZAKARY KOHLMAYER** is an operations service representative at Hybrid Transit Systems, Cedar Rapids.

**KAYLA KREGEL**, Erie, Pa., is a graduate student and cross country and track and field graduate assistant coach at Penn State Behrend.

**NICK KUHLM**, Thornton, Colo., is with the Ethos Consulting Group.

**ABBY LASHER**, Charles City, is a middle school English teacher in the Clear Lake Community School District.

**MAURICIO LEON** is a graduate student in urban and regional planning at the University of Iowa.

**TEVIN LIND**, Princeton, Minn., is an online marketing manager at Commercial Silk International, Eden Prairie.

**JASON LIZALEK** is a medical student at St. Louis University.

**MIGUEL LOZAN**, Peoria, Ill., is a youth counselor with Children's Home.

**ANTHONY LYNN**, St. Paul, Minn., is a substitute teacher with Teachers on Call, Bloomington.

**JACOB MARTIN** is a relationship management liaison with Cambridge Investment Research, Fairfield.

**LUC McALPIN**, Cedar Falls, is an admissions counselor at Wartburg College.

**DONALD MILLER** is a football coach with Romeoville High School, Romeoville, Ill.

**ELIZABETH MOELLERS** is a customer service representative with GEICO, Coralville.

**SETH MOMMSEN** is a graduate student in anatomy at Des Moines University.

**CHASE MOSER** is a finance rotate at Rockwell Collins, Cedar Rapids.

**APAISARIA MOSHI** is enrolled in the Master of Business Administration program at DeVry University, Denver, Colo.

**TAWANDA MURINDA** is enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque.

**DANIEL NADEAU** is a junior varsity boys' soccer coach in Stillwater, Minn.

**ALEX NICOLL** is a multimedia specialist at The Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier.

**MILICA NJEZIC** is a graphic designer with Connell Communications, Cedar Falls.

**SETH NUTTING** is a digital and social media intern with the Kansas City Chiefs, Kansas City, Mo.

**JONATHAN ORR** is a commercial sales representative with Peoples Insurance Agency and CUNA Mutual Group, Waverly.

**TAYLOR OSWALD**, Monticello, is a loyalty advocate with Toyota Financial Services, Cedar Rapids.

**ELLISE PARKER** is a third-grade teacher in the Dike-New Hartford Community School District, Dike.

**RICHARD PERHAM** is in outside sales at Fastenal, Cedar Rapids.

**CHRISTEN PINK** is an elementary vocal music teacher in the Jesup Community School District.

**EMILY RASMUSSEN** is an assurance associate with McGladrey, Omaha, Neb.

**KATHRYN REINHARDT** is in the professional development program at Businessolver, West Des Moines.

**AMANDA RIEKE**, Wonder Lake, Ill., is a master data analyst at Aptar, Cary.

**JORDAN SABUS** is a financial services representative at MassMutual, Des Moines.

**KORRYNA SALMON** and Gage Peters, Cedar Falls, were married May 23.

**MORGAN SEDERBURG** is a graduate student in library and information sciences at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

**SAM SINCOX** is a loan servicing specialist at Wells Fargo, Des Moines.

**ELIZABETH SNYDER**, Hiawatha, is an elementary music teacher in the Cedar Rapids Community School District, Cedar Rapids.

**KYLE SPRAIN** is a systems engineer at Rockwell Collins, Cedar Rapids.

**JOSEPHINE SUCHOMEL** is a middle school teacher in the Aplington-Parkersburg Community School District.

**DALLAS TOPPING-KOPPE**s is enrolled in the Doctor of Chiropractic program at Logan University, Chesterfield, Mo.

**DANIEL VanGRONINGEN** is a graduate student in industrial engineering at Iowa State University.

**PARIS WHITE** is enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque.

**KATIE WYMAN**, Denver, Colo., is with Aiello Public Relations and Marketing.

**ABBY ZIMMERMAN** is an account manager at Mudd Advertising, Cedar Falls.

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# I N M E M O R I A M



## 1940

**Wayne Kimball**, Klamath Falls, Ore., died Aug. 23. A veteran of the Army Air Corps during World War II, he earned a master's degree and taught chemistry at Oregon Technical Institute. His gifts to the college also helped create and fund several scholarships.

**Paul Engelbrecht**, Honolulu, died May 22, 2014. The retired Libby, McNeill & Libby Co. controller served during World War II and studied at the University of Colorado Boulder and Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

## 1943

**Mildred Beisner Hart**, New Ulm, Minn., died Aug. 23. She taught in several Iowa schools and served numerous churches in Iowa and Illinois with her husband.

## 1944

**Genevieve Moline Natvig**, Kimball, S.D., died Dec. 11, 2012. She attended Methodist Nursing School before joining the Army Nurse Corps. The registered nurse worked at hospitals and nursing homes in South Dakota and served as a substitute teacher.

## 1945

**Marcella Schuldt Bales**, Denver, died Aug. 17. She graduated from Iowa State Teachers College and taught in several Iowa schools.

## 1946

**Velda Pichelmeyer Fryk**, Waverly, died July 27. She worked for Lutheran Mutual Life Insurance Company and the U.S. Postal Service.

Dr. **Robert Sautter**, Mount Vernon, died March 21. Following his service in the U.S. Navy during World War II, he earned a medical degree from the University of Iowa College of Medicine. He served as a U.S. Army surgeon during the Korean War and was a family physician in Mount Vernon for 35 years.

## 1949

**Esther Vetter Thomas**, Waukon, died June 23. She graduated from Iowa Wesleyan College in Mount Pleasant with a bachelor's degree in teaching and worked in several Iowa school districts before retiring in 1990.

**Victor Kuester**, Milwaukee, Wis., died March 1, 2014. He was a retired business teacher.

## 1950

**Mary McAlpine**, Boone, died Feb. 9, 2013. The yeoman second class served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Before retiring in 1983, she taught and was a superintendent in several Iowa school districts.

The Rev. **Kenneth Krueger**, Anaheim, Calif., died Aug. 1. After serving in the U.S. Army, he graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque. He served churches in Idaho and California before retiring in 1992.

Dr. **Raymond Berner**, Traer, died May 22. After earning a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry, he served in the U.S. Navy from 1952 to 1954. He later opened his own dental practice in Reinbeck, where he worked until his retirement in 1993.

## 1951

**Muriel Hanselmann Boyken**, Algona, died Dec. 2, 2014. She earned a bachelor's degree in music from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 1969 and was a church organist.

**Carl "Wally" Lynes**, Plainfield, died July 27. He was a shipping clerk for Hydrotile.

## 1952

The Rev. **Dale Roseke**, Otho, died July 12. He was a pastor for churches in Nebraska and Iowa.

## 1953

**William "Bill" Tucker**, Ottawa, Ill., died Aug. 22. He served in the U.S. Navy as a seaman first class aboard the USS Auscilla. He later worked as an accountant and carpenter.

## 1954

The Rev. **James Sorenson**, South Seaville, N.J., died Aug. 16. As a Lutheran minister, he specialized in mission development and served in three churches. He also co-founded the Cape May County Habitat for Humanity chapter.

**Roger Hennings**, Waverly, died June 17. He graduated from William Mitchell Law School and opened a law firm in St. Paul, Minn. The municipal magistrate judge also worked for the Salvation Army in Detroit and Tulsa, Okla. Prior to his 2004 retirement, Hennings clerked for law firms in Florida and Nevada.

## 1955

**John Heinzerling Jr.**, Des Moines, died June 26. He taught in several Iowa school districts before serving two years in the U.S. Army. After his service, he returned to Des Moines where he taught German, Spanish, and special education.

The Rev. **Norman Sifferath**, Hutchinson, Minn., died July 28. He attended Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1959. He served parishes in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

**Raymond Venzke**, Neenah, Wis., died July 18. After graduating from Trinity College and Seminary, he served parishes in Minnesota before accepting a missionary calling in leper rehabilitation villages in Thailand. He later served a parish in North Dakota, earned a master's degree in psychology from the University of North Dakota, and opened his own counseling center in Helena, Mont.



## 1958

**Marilyn Harken Araeipour**, Dubuque, died July 4. She moved to Iran in 1962 where she established the Iran American Kindergarten School in Tehran. In 1973, she moved to Dubuque where she started and directed the Early Childhood Education Program at Northeast Iowa Community College.

## 1960

**Wanda Karsten Hummel**, Fargo, N.D., died July 29. She taught in Iowa and Minnesota before moving to Fargo, where she taught in two public elementary schools.

**Norman Litzner**, Hot Springs Village, Ark., died July 10. The Lutheran minister also was a chaplain with the Windsor Heights volunteer fire department for 25 years. He is survived by his wife, **Patricia Brown Litzner '82**.

## 1961

Dr. **David Grube**, Edina, Minn., died Aug. 26. He graduated from the University of Iowa College of Medicine and served in the U.S. Army for two years before a 31-year family practice career in Minnesota.

**Darwin Otto**, Denver, died July 6. He was a John Deere supervisor for 33 years before retiring in 1991.

## 1967

**Jean Carran Fredrick**, Waverly, died May 31. She was a choir director before moving to Waverly in 1962, where she was an administrative assistant for an insurance company and church. She retired in 1985.

## 1968

**Marie Zwanziger**, Little River, S.C., died July 13. She earned a master's degree in library science from the University of Denver and worked for 30 years in the New York City Public Library system.

## 1969

**Gerald "Jerry" Heying**, Marshalltown, died Sept. 9. He taught biology and coached girls' and boys' basketball in Wisconsin for 16 years before moving to Marshalltown, where he taught biology, human anatomy, and DNA technology and coached girls' basketball until his retirement in 2011.

**Helen Noble Peschau**, La Crosse, Wis., died June 14. Her information technology and business information systems career spanned 43 years, with 38 years at The Trane Company.

## 1970

**Stephen Hinds**, Aurora, Colo., died Dec. 22. After graduating from Iowa State University, he worked in management for Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. Hinds later worked construction in Oklahoma and Texas.

## 1971

**Debra Westendorf**, Forest Grove, Ore., died May 21. She was a computer programmer for John Deere in Waterloo for 35 years before retiring in 2010.

## 1972

**Evelyn Wagner Sikma**, Bartlett, Ill., died June 20. She worked for 20 years at Sears, briefly owned her own business, and was her church's office manager.

## 1973

**Dale Fox**, Strawberry Point, died Aug. 11. He earned a master's degree in business administration from the University of Northern Iowa and taught and coached in Iowa until his retirement in 2009. He also served as mayor of Strawberry Point for six years.

**Stacey Olson Strempe**, Grapevine, Texas, died May 17.

**Earlene Cooper Niewoehner**, Fredericksburg, died June 17. She taught at elementary schools in several Iowa school districts.

## 1975

**David Wyant**, Buford, Ga., died Dec. 16, 2013. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a police officer in Waterloo and San Bernardino, Calif.

## 1977

**Gregory Smith**, Peoria, Ill., died July 28. During a 37-year career in health insurance, he was co-founder of his local chapter of the National Association of Healthcare Underwriters and served on the Illinois Adequate Healthcare Taskforce. He is survived by his wife, **SuzAnn Roelfs Smith '80**.

## 1985

**Tracy Crumpton**, Anamosa, died Nov. 14, 2013. He worked at ESP International.

## 1989

**Lloyd "Kevin" Shipp**, Waverly, died June 8. He was a medical lab technician at Allen Hospital and Waverly Health Center.

## 1992

**Scott Olson**, Colorado Springs, Colo., died June 22. He taught music in several Colorado school districts and was a guitar instructor at Adams State College before moving to San Diego, where he was a musician and music teacher.

## 1998

**Benjamin Bartlett**, Cedar Falls, died June 10. He was an elementary school music teacher in Cedar Falls and played piano and guitar and led worship at his church. He is survived by his wife, **Erin Whitehill Bartlett '98**.

## Noteworthy friend

**Vickey Klunder**, Waverly, died Sept. 28. Klunder was the residential housing assistant in the Student Life Office. She had worked at the college for 36 years. She is survived by her sons **Chad '95** and Erik.

# WARTBURG TRADITION GAINS STRENGTH AT ROCK VALLEY PT

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN PHOTO JULIE DREWES '90

**WHEN MIKE HORSFIELD '91 AND ERIC SACIA '91 MET AT WARTBURG**, they never dreamed they would someday be co-workers, let alone running a business together.

Today, Horsfield is CEO of Rock Valley Physical Therapy, which owns and operates 27 locations in Iowa and Illinois. Sacia is chief operating officer.

More than 15 other Wartburg graduates also have found success there, with at least 12 working there today, including Rock Valley's co-founder, **Mark Levsen '72**.

"As Rock Valley grew to about 100 therapists, we realized about 15 percent were Wartburg grads, and we started thinking we have something kind of cool here," Horsfield said. "Hiring Wartburg grads has just happened naturally, but it goes back to the strength of Wartburg's biology department."

In addition to their administrative duties, Horsfield and Sacia also see patients out of the Bettendorf and Moline offices, respectively. Levsen, who stepped away from his administrative role in the early '90s, is an assistant professor of physical therapy at St.

Ambrose University and practices part-time in Rock Valley's Davenport office.

"We were fortunate to hook up with Rock Valley when we did. Their culture is one of high expectations for patient care and really challenging your thought process," Sacia said. "It really does connect with Wartburg's mission."

The Wartburg connections extend beyond the office. Several employees' spouses also attended Wartburg. Three current employees, including Levsen and Sacia, have children enrolled at the college today.

**Mitch Blythe '11** learned about a Rock Valley opening—from another Wartburg graduate—while earning his doctorate at Des Moines University.

"It was nice during my interview to have something to talk about that wasn't therapy related," said Blythe, a former football player. "Most of us had similar experiences coming through school. Mike played baseball, and Eric played basketball, so we all had similar student-athlete experiences."

Many Rock Valley therapists cut their teeth in the college's training room. Some, including Horsfield and Sacia, even trained with **Jon Woltz '85**, a Waverly physical therapist who ran the training room. In 2008, their story came full circle when Woltz joined the Rock Valley team.

"I give a lot of credit to Jon for who I am today. He took Mike and I under his wing at Wartburg and helped mold us into who we are today," Sacia said. "Now, we are working together to do bigger and better things with other Wartburg grads contributing so much to the practice."

"People who go to larger schools don't always understand the passion we all have for Wartburg," Horsfield added. "There is nothing I love more than introducing a new therapist and saying 'Oh, and did you know they are a Wartburg grad?' There is just something special about the bond we have." 📍



Rock Valley employees gathered on campus in late September. They are (front from left) Jordan Galles DeNeve '11, Jennifer Kuiken Peters '10, Janelle Meyer McCalla '89, and Jon Woltz '85 and (back from left) Mitch Blythe '11, Mike Horsfield '91, and Eric Sacia '91. Not pictured are Sam Huey '08, Cathy Hruska Mitchell '04, Nick Grimoskas '11, Chad Williams '98, and Mark Levsen '72.





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# SAVE THE DATES

## DECEMBER

- 4-6 Christmas with Wartburg**  
*Des Moines/Neumann Auditorium  
presented by Sukup Manufacturing Co.*
- 13 December Commencement**  
*Wartburg Chapel, 10:30 a.m.*
- 13 Holiday Classics**  
*Wartburg Community Symphony,  
Neumann Auditorium, 3 p.m.*

## JANUARY

- 17 Winter Scholarship Day**

## FEBRUARY

- 17 Meistersinger Honor Orchestra Festival**  
*Wartburg Community Symphony,  
Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.*
- 21 Winter Scholarship Day**

## MARCH

- 19 Booster Club Cash Draw**  
*Joe's Knight Hawk, 2 p.m.*
- 31 UKnight Day**

## APRIL

- 7 RICE Day**  
*Campuswide, all day*
- 7 Scholarship Recognition Luncheon**  
*Heritage and St. Elizabeth rooms,  
11:30 a.m.*
- 8 Young Alumni Award Dinner**  
*Heritage and St. Elizabeth rooms,  
Saemann Student Center*
- 9 A Night at the Opera**  
*Wartburg Community Symphony,  
Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.*

## MAY

- 19-22 Class of 1966 50-Year Reunion**
- 22 Baccalaureate and Commencement**
- 26-28 Division III Men's and Women's Outdoor Track & Field Championships**

Visit [www.wartburg.edu/cal](http://www.wartburg.edu/cal) for more information about these and other Wartburg events. Call the Alumni Office at 319-352-8491 with questions.





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